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PROCEEDINGS 1 THE COURT: The Court calls the last case on the 2 sentencing docket today, United States vs. Jason Kyle Kerby, 3 Case 1:23-CR-028-1. 4 who is here on behalf of the defendant? 5 MR. MAYO: Tyler Mayo, Your Honor, on behalf of 6 Mr. Kerby. 7 THE COURT: Thank you, Mr. Mayo. 8 And for the United States? 9 10 MS. WOOLAM: Good afternoon, Your Honor. Callie woolam on behalf of the United States. Ready to proceed. 11 12 THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. Woolam. Mr. Kerby, good afternoon. 13 14 THE DEFENDANT: Good afternoon. THE COURT: Would you please tell me your full 15 name, sir. 16 17 THE DEFENDANT: Jason Kyle Kerby. THE COURT: All right. Mr. Kerby, let's talk about 18 your case and how we got here today. 19 You previously appeared before Magistrate Judge 20 Parker back in late January. You pled quilty to Counts 5 and 6 21 of the superseding indictment charging you with two counts of 22 production of child pornography. 23 Judge Parker found that your guilty plea was 24 25 knowing and voluntary and supported by a sufficient factual

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basis, so he recommended that I accept your guilty plea. And I
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      did. On February 12th, I entered an order that accepted your
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      guilty plea and adjudged you guilty of the crime alleged
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      against you.
                 Now, Mr. Kerby, I know this is the first time you
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      and I are actually seeing each other during this process, but I
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     want you to know I'm very familiar with your case. Obviously,
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      there have been a lot of filings in this case. The Court, with
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      the great assistance of its court staff and law clerks, have
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      reviewed all these materials, and I am prepared to proceed
      today. Okay?
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                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.
                 THE COURT: All right. Mr. Mayo, have you had an
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      opportunity to read the presentence report, the PSR addendum,
      and the PSR second addendum and discuss those documents with
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     your client?
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                 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.
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                 THE COURT: Mr. Kerby, have you had an opportunity
      to read your presentence report, the PSR addendum, and the PSR
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      second addendum and discuss those documents with your attorney?
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                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes. Your Honor.
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                 THE COURT: You understand we're here so I can
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     decide what sentence to impose?
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                 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.
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                 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Mayo, do you
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have any objections to the PSR, the PSR addendum, or the PSR second addendum?

MR. MAYO: No, Your Honor. And I'd also highlight what Ms. Woolam filed regarding restitution. The defense is in agreement that the \$540,000 amount is correct, as noted in the conditions of supervised release. 517,000, roughly, was noted in the second addendum, but we are not objecting to the 540,000 amount.

THE COURT: Okay. And that--you're referencing the government's amended statement adopting the second addendum?

MR. MAYO: That is correct, Judge. And I filed an amended--or an answer adopting that. That second addendum had the incorrect amount, so I just wanted to make that clear on the record.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. And the correct amount -- You're saying the amended statement regarding the second addendum had an incorrect amount?

MR. MAYO: I believe it referenced 517,000, Judge. It didn't account for the travel expenses and the rental home for the alleged victim--or, excuse me, not the alleged. Excuse me. The victim and her family and the family members.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Well, we will get to the amounts to make sure we're all on the same page when we get to that portion of the sentencing. But thank you for noting that you have no objections and that you--other than making

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sure the amount is precisely correct--
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                 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.
                 THE COURT: --you have no objections.
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                            No objections.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                 THE COURT: Any objections from the United States
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      to the PSR, its addendum, or its second addendum?
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                 MS. WOOLAM: No, Your Honor, with the exception of
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      that restitution issue, which is well documented in the
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      filings, and we can discuss that when we get to restitution.
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                 THE COURT:
                             Okay. All right.
                                                Thank vou.
                 The Court, hearing no objections, adopts the PSR,
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      the PSR addendum and second addendum's factual findings and
      legal conclusions as my own, except, as the parties recognize
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      today, the Court notes that the victim impact and restitution
      amount should also include an additional $22,346.34 in
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      restitution awarded to Does 1 and 2 jointly. This amount
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      corresponds to the Does' travel and housing expenses following
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      the FBI raid that are detailed in Docket Number 44-1 and
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      previously agreed to by the parties in Docket Numbers 47 and
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      48. This additional restitution was also included in the
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      Court's notice of intent to impose conditions of supervised
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      release. So I will include that $22,346.54.
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                 That's the amount I have. Is that what you have,
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     Mr. Mayo?
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                 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.
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THE COURT: Ms. Woolam, is that correct?

MS. WOOLAM: That's correct. I might have misheard you, Your Honor. I thought maybe the first time, you said

4 34 cents, but it is 54 cents, and you said that correctly just

now.

THE COURT: Yeah, 54 cents. So I have \$22,346.54.

MS. WOOLAM: That's correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Mayo?

MR. MAYO: That is correct.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you both. So with that slight caveat, otherwise, I do adopt the PSR and its addendum and second addendum.

I want to thank both parties for working together about the restitution amount. The Court already doesn't like to do math. It especially doesn't like to do math in public in front of a room full of people. No one wants to hear that anyway. So I asked the parties to get together. I'd also like to thank Probation. This a complex case. This is a difficult case. You all worked together very professionally while still advocating for your clients, and that has made the Court's job a lot easier, and we were able to get to the right result outside of court. So I do appreciate and I commend both sides for doing that.

Okay. Mr. Kerby, let me tell you your statutory sentencing range and your advisory guideline range. So the

statutory sentencing range, or the total possible range of punishment here, sir, is a term of imprisonment— And this is for each count of conviction. For each count of conviction, the range potentially is a term of imprisonment of at least 15 years, but not more than 30 years; a fine of \$250,000, or both; and a period of supervised release of at least 5 years, and up to life.

Now, under the guidelines manual, we have a total offense level of 43; your criminal history category is I; and that results, typically, in an advisory guideline range of life imprisonment. Now, one, that's advisory on me. Two, that's not your actual guideline range here, because the statutory maximum that you could face is 30 years per count. And because of that, the guideline—the advisory guideline range becomes 360 months per count, combined, for an advisory range of 720 months.

Mr. Mayo, have I stated that advisory guideline range correctly?

MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Ms. Woolam?

MS. WOOLAM: That is correct, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Okay. Mr. Mayo, I am in receipt of your sentencing memorandum that requests a sentence of 360 months per count, to run them concurrently, for a total sentence of 30 years. You note multiple things in that, and I

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understand that memo, but I'd be glad to hear any additional
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      evidence or argument that you have today on behalf of your
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      client.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                            Sure.
                 THE COURT: And why don't you use the podium for
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      the court reporter's benefit.
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                 Mr. Kerby, you may have a seat.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                            Judge, I appreciate that. I also filed
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      the case law that I cited, both the Randall case and--
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                 THE COURT:
                             Yeah, this is going to be--this one is
      tricky, so let me just spell it for my court reporter.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                            Sure.
                 THE COURT: I think I know which one you're going
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      to mention. G-r-z-y-w-i-n-s-k-i. Is that the one you were
     going to reference?
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                 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.
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                 THE COURT: Let's just call it Grzywinski.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                            That's perfect.
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                 THE COURT: Good enough for me. Okay.
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                 MR. MAYO: And to make it even easier, I'll mostly
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      reference Randall, Judge.
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                 THE COURT: All right.
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                 MR. MAYO: Those cases--both defendants in those
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      received 45 years in prison, with multiple counts of production
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     of child pornography, among other heinous acts. Those--both of
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those defendants were also prior sex offenders before receiving the new federal charges.

Let me back up and say I have great empathy and sorrow for the victims in this case, Judge. Nothing that I say, the government says, or the sentence imposed today can bring them back to square one. I have two daughters of my own. I would note that I have great empathy for that family, and I know Mr. Kerby does as well. It might come-- I hope the Court doesn't find that disingenuous, but I do believe he does have remorse for his actions in this case.

I'll also note that the *Smith* case that the government cites in their sentencing memorandum--while he was a one-point offender, he also had a prior uncalculated sexual exploitation of a minor. So not any of the cases are really analogous to this case.

I'm not asking for a downward variance. I'm not asking for anything other than to run these two counts concurrently, Judge. Thirty years is a sufficient sentence to both promote accountability to the public, to hold the defendant responsible, and to protect the public from future crimes.

Mr. Kerby is a zero-point offender. He's-- You know, I could stand up here and make excuses, Judge. I'm not. This was heinous behavior; outside of his character, as shown by his complete lack of criminal history, his loving family

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Page 11 of 72 that I've had contact with throughout. His son was married 1 yesterday--his youngest son, Mason. 2 And so, you know, he's not going to have any 3 free-world communication with his parents again. That was 4 because of his actions. He's not going to have any 5 communication in the free world with his children while they're 6 still children because of his actions, Judge. 7 That being said, 30 years is a sufficient period of 8 time to hold him accountable for these heinous acts, Judge, and 9 I would ask that you run these concurrently. 10 11 THE COURT: okay.

> MR. MAYO: Thank you.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Mayo. I appreciate that argument today. I appreciate your written sentencing memorandum, Docket Number 54. I've considered everything in that as well. The Court has read and considered Randall and Grzywinski. I'll ask my colleague in Amarillo, Kacsmaryk, how to properly pronounce that. He will know.

But I've considered both of those cases. I've read them closely and considered your argument that, in light of them, to avoid unwarranted sentencing disparity, the Court should impose two 30-year sentences running concurrently.

I've also considered support letters from--on behalf of Mr. Kerby from his sons. That's Document Number 54-1. I have considered those. Would you like to offer

those into evidence, Mr. Mayo, given that the Court has 1 considered them, or no? 2 I would, Judge. I also served them to 3 MR. MAYO: Ms. Woolam, as well as U.S. Probation, prior to this hearing. 4 THE COURT: Okay. All right. Any objection to 5 admitting them into evidence? 6 MS. WOOLAM: No, Your Honor. They are part of a 7 sealed document. I don't know that the Court intends to seal 8 them or not, but the government has no objection either way. 9 10 THE COURT: Would you like to ask that they be sealed, or no? 11 12 MR. MAYO: I would ask that they remain sealed just with the sentencing memorandum, Judge. 13 14 THE COURT: Okay. All right. In light of their relation to sealed sentencing materials, the Court will admit 15 them as Defendant's 1--Defendant's Sentencing 1. They will be 16 filed under seal. I find that the defendant's need for privacy 17 and the safety of the family outweighs the public's right to 18 access. They are just general support letters from sons on 19 behalf of the father, with some of the unique circumstances 20 mentioned in this case. 21 Mr. Kerby, I've heard from your attorney. 22 Ι have read all the materials in this case. But you have the 23 right to speak today if you'd like. You do not have to say 24 25 anything if you don't want to, and I won't hold it against you

if you don't.

Is there anything you would like to say, sir?

THE DEFENDANT: Yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

THE DEFENDANT: First and foremost, I want to apologize to my stepdaughters. I can't put into words the regret that I have for the situation I've put them in. It's the first thing I think about every morning. It's the last thing I think about every night. I betrayed their trust, and I know nothing that I say can--or do can change the past, but I would give anything to stop the sequence of events that brought us here today.

I was--I started living as a hypocrite against everything I believe, everything I've taught my kids, and I'm thankful that the dark path I was on was exposed. There are several members of my family here today and several others in the courtroom who are all extremely disappointed in me. Some would even say they hate me. But there's no one more disappointed or ashamed of my mistakes than myself. I have let down and hurt everyone in this world that I care about most. I let down my parents and my in-laws as a son. I let down my siblings as a brother. I let down my wife as a husband, and I let down my kids as a father and a stepfather.

Like Mr. Mayo said, one of my kids got married yesterday. It's one of a thousand milestones every parent

dreams of sharing with their kids that I won't be able to share with them, that I won't be able to support them. And no matter how many good things I've done in my life, this is what people are going to remember about me.

I just pray for this Court's mercy so that I can one day have the opportunity to redeem myself to my family and society and show everyone that there's been a transformation in me.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Mr. Kerby. I appreciate that statement, and I will take that into account.

All right. Mr. Mayo, why don't you and your client have a seat.

MR. MAYO: Judge, briefly, I can't remember if we addressed competency or anything like that, Judge. Mr. Kerby is competent. I will note for the record, since being in Eden, he has been on psychoactive medication for both anxiety and depression. My communication with Mr. Kerby has improved throughout this—throughout this span of time over ten months now. I just wanted to note that for the Court's record and that that is not a factor in his competency or anything like that.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. There's no dispute that he has been competent throughout these proceedings?

MR. MAYO: No, Your Honor, not at all.

THE COURT: Ms. Woolam, you agree with that. 1 Right? 2 The United States doesn't have any 3 MS. WOOLAM: reason to believe he is anything other than fully competent. 4 THE COURT: Nor do I. Okay. 5 MR. MAYO: Thank you, Judge. 6 And there's no evidence otherwise. All THE COURT: 7 right. Thank you for that. 8 All right. Okay. Ms. Woolam, I'd be glad to hear 9 10 anything from the United States. I would ask, if possible, if we could begin with admitting any evidence that you think we 11 12 should admit today. MS. WOOLAM: Yes, Your Honor. 13 14 Your Honor--THE COURT: I was considering the information 15 attached to your memorandum, which are mostly documents about 16 restitution--that's 53-1--as well as the victim impact 17 18 statements in 53-2. MS. WOOLAM: Yes, Your Honor. If I may actually 19 begin with moving the Court to dismiss the remaining counts of 20 the superseding indictment and proceeding to sentencing on 21 Counts 5 and 6. 22 THE COURT: That's granted. 23 MS. WOOLAM: I will forget that if I don't do 24 25 that--

THE COURT: So will I. 1 MS. WOOLAM: --very first. 2 THE COURT: 3 Okay. 4 MS. WOOLAM: Thank you, Your Honor. Your Honor, attached to various sealed sentencing 5 exhibits, we have Exhibits A, B, C, D, and E. 6 Exhibit A was provided to defense counsel and to 7 the Court to review. It is the restitution packet for an 8 unrelated victim that we ask the Court to take into 9 10 consideration as an example of the types of issues, especially with regard to mental health, that Does 1 and 2 will face. 11 12 That's the April packet for the Aprilblonde series. And we would ask, for each of these, that they be 13 14 admitted under seal, given the nature of their references to victims and their use as sealed sentencing exhibits. 15 Exhibit B is the full restitution documents 16 submitted by--on behalf of Does 1 and 2, who are referred in 17 18 various things as L.C. and R.C. There were some documents submitted previously. 19 Counsel for the defendant and I had a phone conference, which 20 was very helpful in resolving the restitution issues, with L.C. 21 and R.C.'s biological father and stepmother, and they, as a 22 result, provided some additional documentation. Through the 23 conversations and with all the documentation submitted, we have 24 25 agreed to the restitution numbers, and those final numbers--I

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know we'll get to restitution, but they are spelled out in the notice of supervised release conditions correctly.

Exhibit C are three victim impact statements. That was attached to Docket Number 53.

Exhibit D includes two additional victim impact statements. That was attached to Docket Number 58.

And Exhibit E is the final victim impact statement we submitted on behalf of L.C. and R.C., and that was attached to Docket Number 61.

THE COURT: All right. Mr. Mayo, any objection to admitting Government's A through E, and admitting them under seal?

MR. MAYO: No objection, Judge.

THE COURT: Government's A through E are admitted. They are admitted under seal. I do make a specific finding that the victims' right to privacy is outweighed by the public's right to access those court documents. So for all those reasons, they are admitted, and they are admitted under seal. I'll ask both sides to keep up with the originals of your exhibits.

All right. You may proceed, Ms. Woolam.

MS. WOOLAM: Thank you, Your Honor.

Your Honor, there's no secret here that the United States is asking for a sentence of 720 months, the maximum for both counts, to run consecutively, for a total

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maximum sentence of 60 years. The United States believes that the defendant should spend the next 60 years of his life waking up every single day thinking about his abuse of his two stepdaughters.

I don't think I ever can say things quite the same way that individuals are able to say them in the victim impact statements we receive, and there were several received in this case which have just been admitted. I would like to just read a few portions of some of the things that the family members and community have had to process with Mr. Kerby's abuse of not just his stepdaughters, but several other individuals.

A letter from Jay Weaver states, among other things:

"The entire mess has been infuriating, disgusting, sickening, and completely immoral. This has been a crippling blow to our family, and we would all love to see his sentencing carried out to the fullest extent of the law.

"Jason deserves no mercy for the crimes he has committed. Too many people were involved and deceived by this monster of a human. The fact that children were involved and drugged for his pleasure is unfathomable."

Laurie Sherrod writes, in part, discussing the trust that her whole family had on Jason Kerby:

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"Little did we know he was a devil masquerading as a Christian. Jason professed to be a Christian musician, and we were all super happy that they had found each other, all the while not imagining the evil creature that lay behind this Christian facade.

"This travesty has resulted in the loss of innocence for five children. Three young men have had their idea of a father-figure shattered, and two beautiful young girls will likely be unable to trust male figures in the future. Luckily, Daysha had a solid relationship with her church family. They rallied and got her moved into a safe home.

"All the people involved in Jason's depravity have had to face the consequences of his actions. He needs to be held accountable for the destruction he has caused. There is no prison sentence long enough to extinguish the pain and suffering he has caused in the lives of the people subjected to the wickedness they have had to endure. These children may lose all their ability to discern right and It could lead to suicide and/or violence in the future.

"Please consider all victims and the long-lasting effects of Jason's tragically

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premeditated, horrific acts."

Mary Higby writes, in part, referring to the girls, as well as Daysha:

"Let's talk about their mental health. Davsha and her daughters' mental health are now in jeopardy. All three of them are in therapy. All three are trying to figure out how to navigate this new life, this new life where they can't trust people, where they are stared at, questioned. People whisper whenever"--"wherever they go. Thankfully, people will eventually find something new to discuss, but it won't change the emotional scars the girls and Daysha will have a lifetime trying to heal. No amount of therapy can overcome something like this.

"So I plead with you to please give him the maximum prison sentence for the safety of women, men, and children. Please do not allow him parole. Please give Daysha, her girls, me, and this community the comfort of getting one more sick pedophile behind bars, one more monster who deserves to be locked up, away from society."

Kenny and Janessa Berry write about their own daughter's suffering at Jason's hands:

"He was somebody she completely trusted, as

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did our entire family. As you can imagine, the emotional impact from having someone you trust commit this kind of betrayal is unimaginable. Jason never exhibited any warning signs or, quote, red flags that would have caused someone to have any suspicion of him. This scenario would make anyone unable to have confidence in their own ability to discern someone's true character."

Referring to their daughter, "had just moved into her first college house when this was discovered, and, of course, it has created a sense of fear and mistrust. For example, she has had the opportunity to spend this summer in Montana as a church intern, for which she was provided a host home. You can only imagine the fear and apprehension she feels as she must constantly try to identify if there is a reason to be concerned with the host family or if there are any unknown cameras in the home. An amazing experience has now been tainted with the consistent fear that comes from being a victim of something such as this.

"As her parents, there is tremendous heartbreak in hearing your daughter with true fear in her voice as she tries to navigate the aftermath Jason has created with his actions. She is strong

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Document 65

Filed 07/08/24

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and has worked very hard over the past nine months to find ways to begin healing from this incident. Although this will impact her for the rest of her life, she will continue to work through ways to restore her trust in relationships around her. while her trust of earthly people may be shaken, she places her ultimate trust in the Lord.

"Even though Jason has not expressed any remorse, she would want you to know that she ultimately forgives Jason, as the Lord asks her to However, forgiveness does not mean an absence of boundaries. Jason's selfish actions and addiction to money, sex, and attention have impacted so many people in very lasting ways.

"It is our belief that Jason is unable to comprehend the trail of destruction that his actions have created and that his prideful personality could create repetition of his behavior. We feel that he should receive the maximum sentence, to limit any possible ways that he could hurt other potential victims."

Your Honor, the last two letters, I would like to read in their entirety. It is the letter submitted by Daysha, who I mentioned. That is--the victims named in Counts 5 and 6, that is their biological mother, as well as the letter

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when I discussed the opportunities to speak at sentencing with many individuals involved, I explain how it can be stressful coming up here and speaking your words about especially about the horrific nature of abuse that somebody like Jason Kerby has caused to these individuals. And I think every one of these individuals that was strong enough to write letters appropriately chose not to speak in person. They didn't need additional stress in their lives, to have to come up here and face Jason directly. But I hope that Mr. Kerby will hear the words that they have written and taken the time to put together and think about them every day for the rest of his life.

submitted by their biological father and stepmother on their

Daysha Weaver writes:

"When I consider where to start writing a victim impact statement, I realize that it would have been much easier to say how we have not been impacted, which would have been nothing. This has impacted every part of our lives. It has been extremely hard and emotionally painful to think about.

"Seven years ago, I moved my girls and me to Abilene to start a new life with a man and his boys. I wholeheartedly believed this man to be a

Page 24 of 72

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good Christian, a man who promised to love and protect myself and my girls. He even wrote and recorded songs about it, as well as wrote and recorded Christian songs. We built what I believed to be at the time a beautiful life together. Jason had it all: a beautiful home with an amazing yard, a great job where he was continually successful. a successful and growing side business, a church and life group where we were active, and, most importantly, a beautiful family with kids and a wife who adored, trusted, and loved him. I am not like Jason in the fact that he is overly confident and conceited, which was always my pet peeve of him, but I can say with confidence that I was the best wife I could have been to him, loyal and loving, and the best stepmom to his boys that I knew how to be. The girls were good sisters to his boys and good stepdaughters to him.

"At 6:00 a.m. on August 28th, the FBI surrounded our house and beat on all the windows and doors, yelling, 'FBI, let us in,' and our lives were forever changed. That was the last time I've seen Jason. There was no time even to ask what was going on before we all met at the front door, him and I, his youngest son, and my two daughters, and

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he was immediately arrested and taken away. were all in shock and will forever have trauma over the abrupt awakening that morning. We were all taken to stand in front of a yard while FBI agents entered our house and started going through everything. I could see them get ladders and start with air conditioner/heating vents and electrical Even then, it never occurred to me that the reason they were there could be as bad as it I thought maybe he was a bookie or had gotten was. into trouble with illegally selling equipment.

"After about 15 minutes, I was asked to sit in an FBI car with two agents. We live across the street from the high school, so my life was turned upside down as the Wylie High School cross-country team ran by. As they showed me the first picture, all my love for my husband turned to hate. With each picture, the hate grew. I discovered that the man I married was not a good Christian man. I found out I had been married to an amazing actor, a pathological liar, and a monster. I never considered myself capable of hate. I taught my girls it was wrong. But this has all made me into a different person, one that feels tremendous hate towards him now. Sometimes it is all-consuming.

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"Upon seeing the pictures, I realized my children and I could never stay in that home again, the home we loved and had worked hard on. That day, we packed bags and have never stayed there another night. I also immediately hired an attorney to file for divorce.

"I soon discovered that cameras, including bathrooms and bedrooms, had been hidden all over the house. We literally never had privacy in our own homes. I found out that Jason had been videoing and taking pictures of me and sharing them on the internet without my permission for years, including very intimate moments. I learned from news articles that they had been shared with Christian wife voyeur sites. I found out from meetings with the FBI that he had been videoing at our house for years: our families, my mother, his mother, his sister-in-law, his niece, our friends and their children, our children's friends, and his boys' girlfriends. He completely took advantage of the fact that I wanted to be the"--"that I wanted to be the place where my girls' friends hung out. I wanted to be involved with them and to know where they were and who they were hanging out with. Parents entrusted us with their minor children and

felt safe letting them come over. The girls' friends are no longer allowed to stay at other people's homes. Many of them are in therapy, and many travel with portable devices that are supposed to pick up cameras and recorders and have to check spaces to ease anxiety, as do we. Not only did he video and share at our home; I found out that he took cameras disguised as chargers on family holidays and vacations where he had taken the boys' girlfriends. This was all very much premeditated.

"In these meetings and the coming months, I also found out that Jason had been cheating on me. Not just a few people, but with countless numbers. Many included neighbors; customers in our business; another individual and his son"--"that his son and he had gone to for years; people he sang with, including with Christian music songs; and countless numbers I don't even know about. These people had also been videoed. When I asked the FBI if there was anything else, they were able to tell me"-- "they told that they also had videos of him with 17 different men. This came as an even bigger shock, since he had always been against it, said it was against the Bible and made lots of jokes about it, especially back and forth to his work friends.

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After finding out all the new information, I had a panic attack and had to go get tested for sexually transmitted diseases. Every day, I have to walk around my community wondering, who else. I hate to admit that it has been heartbreaking, as I thought he was in love with me and never wondered about him being faithful. He was very, very good at pretending.

"I spent those first few weeks in a haze of meetings with the FBI, getting a lawyer and meeting with the lawyer, meetings with CPS, meetings with the Children's Advocacy Center, meetings with the Regional Victims Crisis Center, trying to get things out of the house I had loved and find a new, safe place for my girls and me to live. weeks of school, using up days I had accumulated over my 12 years of teaching. My girls missed several days in the beginning, as well. When I went back to work, I still had to get myself to therapy sessions, appointments, court, and meetings, and the girls to their therapy and appointments, as well, when it was my time with Therapy will have to continue for years, them. maybe a lifetime.

"I have wanted to be a mother since I was

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I picked a career as a teacher to have the same schedule as my kids. I worked for three years saving money to spend seven years at home with my babies so I would not miss a second. My girls have always been my number-one priority. When they got older, I started talking to them about predators, checking tablets and phones, and having them under my close watch. I hovered over them and wanted them to be at our house so I could ensure their safety and protect them from the monsters of the I never dreamed in a million years that the world. monster, predator, the molester would be living under my own roof, sleeping beside me.

"Because of him and the idea that I should have known, I've been drug through a custody battle during the most traumatizing time of my life. I've spent thousands of dollars on this, as well as on protective orders for both of my daughters. Despite doctors, therapists, specialists, and other judges telling me that I would not have known that these kinds of people are"--"that these kinds of people are experts at hiding, I will always feel guilty for not knowing, not seeing any signs, and unknowingly putting myself and my daughters in this situation.

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"Jason grew up in a Christian home. He was raised going to church and learning the Bible. continued attending church as an adult, even working as a music minister. We attended church regularly and were active in a life group. Our children went to church camp every summer. knows and has always known the difference between right and wrong. Every single time he did these horrible things, he was making a decision.

"All three of us, myself and my girls, have had trouble sleeping since the arrest. Doe 1 and I have had to get on medicine to help us. Doe 1 also had to get on anxiety medicine and blood pressure medicine as a 14-year-old because of the stress, anxiety, and panic attacks. I have had to get on additional anxiety medication. I anticipate we may have to be on medications forever. I also anticipate us all having to continue with therapy to deal with the issues he has caused.

"This has been horrifying, humiliating, and embarrassing for all three of us. I am a very private person, and Wylie is a small community, so the fact that everyone knows what has happened and who we are continues to be a daily struggle.

Everyone knows who Jane Doe 1 and Jane Doe 2 are,

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as listed in the articles and on the news. 1

Everyone at our schools knows what has happened.

We must courageously hold our heads up and face the looks, whispers, and pity daily. He has taken away our trust in men, security for the future, and destroyed a family.

"what he did to everyone is horrible, but what he did to my sweet innocent little girls is unforgivable. Two little girls who trusted him and loved him. He is a predator and should never be allowed to be around young people ever again. He has already gotten away with so much with so many indictments being dropped in the plea deal. asking that he get the highest number of years for what he did to my two precious daughters, who did not deserve any of this."

And lastly, Your Honor, the victim impact statement submitted on behalf of Jane Does 1 and Jane Does 2:

"Two of the minor victims perpetrated by Jason Kerby were his stepdaughters, now the ages of twelve and fifteen, with whom he has had access since approximately 2016. Neither child felt comfortable writing a victim impact statement; instead, chose to allow their father and stepmother to write this statement on their behalf based on

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the information they have shared and our parental observations and experiences with the children.

The girls collaborated on the topics in this statement within their level of comfort.

"Jason has stolen much from these children, including their childhood, innocence, purity, and He established and asserted dominance and egotistical superiority over those much weaker and purer than himself without regard to effects and consequences on other human beings. His actions to merely gratify his personal deviant desires and to feed his narcissism will extend throughout the lives of these children. Since the FBI raid on their family home in August 2023, they have acquired knowledge of his actions and learned about his ongoing behaviors lacking regard for others, his unwillingness and inability to experience remorse, and his continued deviant behaviors. Because of Jason's actions, these girls have experienced the realization that they cannot trust people, especially those with whom they have the closest of relationships and live. Home no longer represents safety. From Jason, they have learned that those who say they love you, in reality, hurt you and cannot be trusted; those who should

protect, instead, violate.

"Though children do not yet have the mental development and emotional capacity to understand abuse or articulate their experiences, these girls are trying to process and organize the past, harm, and new information. These girls are still very much experiencing the crisis almost one full year after learning about Jason's actions. They are also engaged in trauma responses. They do understand that Jason's behaviors were wrong, and they worry about their future, privacy, health, and relationships. They have confusing and conflicting thoughts and feelings related to the abuse of their minds, bodies, emotions, relationships, and religion.

"Their distrust of Jason surfaced before the FBI raid and peaked weeks before the raid occurred. In their home, they felt unprotected, powerless, and unnoticed as children in danger. After the raid, they learned of Jason's actions against them. It is understandable why they are worried about their images being distributed, the community knowing of their"--"of the perpetration by Jason, the shame to their family, and Jason's lies and sickness. They are angry and must grapple with the

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thoughts of ill will that they have been taught is morally wrong against Jason. Their sense of safety and the number of their safe relationships has dwindled to a couple, because they no longer trust those placed in a position to love and protect them. Since they knew something was wrong for two years before the raid, they are working to manage their self-trust and instincts.

"As we all know, one person's actions always affect others, both directly and indirectly. His actions have fractured significant relationships within their family of origin, required them to uproot from their home, move multiple times in less than one year, seek ongoing counseling, and now engage in a disruptive and psychologically difficult custody battle to ensure they are protected and will not be harmed again. While moving out of the home where they were used and perpetrated was bittersweet for the girls, they continue to be required, as a matter of choice of adults, to continue riding in the vehicle belonging to Jason, a reminder of him and his actions.

"Both girls have cried and feel loneliness because their friends' parents do not hold trust for their children to visit them for activities,

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much less spend the night with the girls, because their children have also been violated by Jason. The girls feel outcasted, tainted, and punished because Jason took pictures of their friends and other family members, and their family story was on the news in a small community and spread rampant in their schools. Their academic year of sixth and ninth grade began with an FBI raid and has continued past the final day of the school year with a lack of structure, stability, and security. They are worried that they will not get to see their friends throughout the summer because of Jason's actions. For children and adolescents, friendships and school are contributors to healthy development. Instead, these girls are lonely, shamed, feel a low sense of self-worth, and must pay for Jason's actions mentally and relationally.

"when primary caregivers tell a child that she is the only problem in their marriage instead of embracing and offering unconditional love and regard, it stays in the psyche permanently. This is something else he must live with. In early 2023, L.C. began having sudden-onset headaches, and this continued until December 2023, when finally she was prescribed medication to manage her blood

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pressure that was in the critical range for a heart attack. The high blood pressure coincided with Jason's increasing arguments with her in the home about trivial matters and the lack of protection offered her as a child by witnesses. Since the raid occurred less than one year ago, L.C. has experienced significant weight gain, putting her at further risk for cardiac and other medical problems. After the FBI raid and knowledge provided to her about Jason's actions, she required an antianxiety medication she continues to take today. For a period after the FBI raid, when in a specific environment where she felt unsafe and unprotected, she required a sleeping pill to afford her any rest. R.C. is angry, untrusting, and feels powerless as a child with no control over her own life. She experiences flashbacks of Jason entering her room at night with a light and removing blankets from her body. Difficulty sleeping and nightmares have plagued both girls as their security and personal boundaries have been violated throughout their lifetime, beginning in their formative years. Both girls have demonstrated increased struggles with energy, motivation, ambition, and drive.

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"Since his incarceration, the girls have been placed in inappropriate reversed roles to help others cope with Jason's choices, acceptance of his personality disorders and authentic self, and divorce, resulting in further instability and turbulence to their lives. Such roles have impeded the girls' needs being met and their ability to enter their own path for healing, all while required to navigate new experiences and information regularly without an end in sight. Both girls are angry that they were forced within their primary family to pacify Jason's needs above their own by having to take responsibility for his feelings, apologize to him for his ongoing and escalating chauvinistic and infantile arguments with L.C., making R.C. kiss him on the mouth and sit on his lap weeks before the FBI raid without intervention at the age of eleven years, being required to say 'I love you' to Jason when they did not want to, and instructed to call him 'Dad' when they did not see him as their dad and did not want to refer to him as such.

"Daily the girls must question without formative comprehension how Jason could continually engage in such violence and abuse of two people he

purportedly loved and was positioned to protect. 1 Their minds struggle with darkness, fear, and anger 2 as they attempt to understand how the people from 3 whom they needed the most protection lived in their 4 own home and violated them for personal and 5 financial gain. Of course, there's no possible 6 explanation or justification for such 7 maliciousness; hence, mental resolution in this 8 regard is impossible. They trusted Jason and 9 relied on him as vulnerable children, vet he 10 intentionally and consciously failed them for his 11 12 own self-serving fulfillment. They may require years or a lifetime of effort, support, and therapy 13 14 to gain some semblance of understanding and resolution to his predatory behaviors against them. 15 "Jason's actions have forced them to mature 16 17 18

"Jason's actions have forced them to mature early. They have learned that trust must be earned and that even those closest to them are not trustworthy, honest, genuine, and protective. Home is not safe; caregivers are not protectors. They struggle with the awareness that Jason sought them out from the beginning as young children to gratify his personal sexually deviant needs while attempting to grow a business from his violation of them to become an entrepreneurial pseudo porn

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actor, producer, and distributor, including images of the girls online. They have been required to acquire knowledge of subjects that children should not be introduced to, nor should they have been nonconsenting actors and victims of his sick world. Jason was allowed the privilege of serving in the role of stepfather despite their father's verbalized warnings, and he was allowed to hijack and poison their lives. Sadly, the girls are very aware of these choices made for their lives, especially by Jason.

"Of importance to the girls is the ability to know and understand the implications, effects, and potentialities of Jason's actions on their bodies. Since learning of Jason's perpetration on them, they have not been able to obtain a comprehensive gynecological exam, an abuse assessment by a competent and qualified medical professional, or knowledge of these effects of the drugs Jason used on them since he has refused to share this information for their benefit. As a matter of principle, they want to know the drugs used and the method of administration. They feel a continued violation because they are not privy to this information and subsequently cannot know what

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signs, symptoms, and outcomes may result from the drugs now or in the future.

"Knowing their images were produced and distributed on the internet, the girls worry about who has seen their pictures, will see their pictures in the future, and how this may influence their life moving forward. They understand that they now will work with lawyers throughout their lifetime to manage the effects of Jason's pornography business of which they were nonconsensual actors, the potential voluminous FBI notifications, court proceedings, and more. Understandably, they are concerned about the ease of accessibility of their images.

"The girls also understand they may have ongoing medical and mental health needs throughout their lifetime. As they enter dating as teenagers, intimate relationships, motherhood, and watch their children grow, they will be reminded of their childhood experiences in the primary home and at the will of Jason. There is no way to predict the exact extent or effects of Jason's actions on their Since March 2023, one or both children have requested and/or participated in counseling. L.C. is now seeing her fifth counselor since April 2023

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and, R.C., a third counselor; efforts that have been required to find a fit to help them addressing the comprehensiveness of what has occurred since their formative years to the present without their consent, knowledge, protection, or ability to communicate openly and honestly in their primary home.

"The search for a counselor that can help them to address their past trauma and ongoing crises has required them to share their story repeatedly, something they greatly dislike and find uncomfortable and burdensome. No child desires to spend their adolescence in ongoing therapy to process, understand, and hope to acquire some resolution to such acts as performed by Jason. Hopefully they will be able to eventually discover a personal purpose and meaning in the circumstances for which they had no will or power.

"Jason's prideful behaviors since his arrest demonstrate his psychopathology. He continues to seek justification and defends his actions by seeking character references, telling his sons he is reading the Bible and praying, believing he can be redeemed. The girls understand that these behaviors demonstrate a lack of remorse and a

denial of wrongdoing by Jason.

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"Since, as a family, they were taught to sit in the front row of the church with hands lifted high to praise God, they are experiencing spiritual and religious conflict and no longer want to attend their church home"--"their home church, where their personal boundaries were further violated in response to the media coverage of Jason's abuse. Now they feel uncomfortable, lack of faith in the church, and untrusting of the church, and understand the deceptiveness and maliciousness that accompanies some false followers of God. of Jason's choices, they have lost their church home, their youth group, trust in organized religion and the church. They have had to evaluate their values, beliefs, truths, and confront dark feelings toward other humans; namely, Jason.

"As well as their medical and mental health and emotional stability, Jason has poisoned their experience with the church and religion. The violations of these two children extend beyond the physical abuse into emotional and mental abuse. These girls have learned firsthand that while we must not harm or take the lives of another human into our own hands to seek justice, sometimes we

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have the desire to do so, and some lives are not worthy of breath or existence. Jason has introduced this harsh reality into their lives as children that should have "--"that should have been able to experience pure innocence, naivete, and unconditional love until much later in life.

"As these girls continue to develop, mature, and progress through life stages, they will undoubtedly be reminded of Jason and his choices. They will be confronted with mental, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and noetic and relational challenges on unknown scales. How they will respond to these challenges can range from resilience and altruism into emotional instability, self-harm, addiction and eating disorders, homicidal and suicidal ideation, an inability to have children, unhealthy relationships, difficulty with intimacy, impulsivity, the inability to trust and suspicious tendencies, accepting Jason's actions as their responsibility in shame, guilt, anger, loneliness, and isolation.

"They will have to manage their reality and feelings of abandonment by their primary caregivers at a high risk for recidivi"--excuse me--"revictimization, may feel the world is unsafe and

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unstable, and have adjustment problems. Their academic and career development can be impaired by Each girl will be required to evaluate and trauma. address their views of men, caregivers, the family system, the meaning of home, and safety.

"In summary, Jason has affected every aspect of their life, and processing, coping, discovering purpose and meaning and learning how to live life fully at different stages very well may require their full lifetime. Jason's selfish moments of personal gratification and narcissism has changed the trajectory of their lives and perspectives of their past. No human has this right or privilege and should never be allowed to affect another human in such a manner."

THE COURT: Does that conclude the victim impact statements?

MS. WOOLAM: That does, yes, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you for reading those. Victims have a right to be heard. They have a right under the There's a statute that governs this. So they have a law. right to have you read those, and it was their choice to have you read them in lieu of their appearing today, which is perfectly fine. They have been heard, and I will take those statements into account.

Before we move on, are there any other victims 1 present that want to be heard today? 2 No, Your Honor. 3 MS. WOOLAM: 4 THE COURT: All right. Go ahead. MS. WOOLAM: Thank you, Your Honor. 5 Your Honor, a 720-month sentence for Mr. Kerby is 6 the only appropriate sentence in this case. The nature and 7 circumstances of this offense are absolutely deplorable. A 8 720-month sentence, the statutory maximum, will provide a just 9 punishment, reflect the seriousness of this offense, and 10 hopefully protect society, and especially children. 11 12 For years, Mr. Kerby masqueraded as a good Christian leader of his community, all while hiding horrific 13 14 crimes that he was committing. Kerby sexually abused 14-year-old Doe 1 multiple times. He drugged her, is our 15 belief, although, as noted, he has not admitted specifically to 16 what drugging, but based on factors located in the Kerby home 17 18 and on chat messages, it is believed he gave Doe 1 Ambien to knock her out and keep her asleep so that he could sneak into 19 her room at night and sexually abuse her. 20 THE COURT: Yeah, that was my understanding, and 21 the PSR reports that he would give her Ambien so she wouldn't 22 wake up during the abuse. And there was no objection to that 23 in the presentence report; is that right? 24

MS. WOOLAM: That's correct, Your Honor.

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THE COURT: Okay. Go ahead.

MS. WOOLAM: Yes, Your Honor. Specifically, messages that were located amongst Kerby's devices, where he was engaging in conversations with what I will refer to only as a pedophile community, Kerby was instructing others how to use Ambien to sexually abuse individuals, including minors.

Kerby told people online, "Sweet. You can order Ambien online; two is phenomenal," is one statement that he made, referring to the use of Ambien.

He also told an individual online, "Wish we could drug both our daughters up and keep taking turns fucking their brains out."

Kerby told another individual online, "Give her three Ambien and fuck her brains out."

Tragically--I don't know how any facts could be more tragic, but the fact that Doe 1 was drugged during this abuse gave her no opportunity to even ever come forward and make an outcry that this abuse was happening, because every time he would film himself sexually abusing Doe 1, she was drugged. She was out cold. And that's what made it easy for him.

He then distributed those videos to others online. It was mentioned in the victim impact statements, but there is no telling-- The only person sitting in this courtroom that has any idea how many people have probably seen the sexual

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abuse of these girls is Jason Kerby, because he knows how many people he sent those videos to. These girls will spend a lifetime learning about more people that are located with their videos.

In addition to the sexual abuse of Doe 1 while she was knocked out, he filmed Doe 2, who was eleven years old at the time; created sexually explicit films of her that she didn't know were taking place while she was in the bathroom.

He also had hidden cameras throughout his entire house filming any single person he could capture. There are at least three other victims that have been identified throughout this investigation that would be minors that Kerby captured sexually explicit videos of just trying to have an overnight stay at his house, trying to enjoy their childhoods.

And he distributed those videos. And we know of the distribution because, at this point, one other individual has been caught with those videos, an individual in Wisconsin, which fortunately is the only reason that we are here today. If that individual in Wisconsin hadn't saved the videos of Kerby sexually abusing and sexually exploiting these victims, Kerby may have never been captured. He may have continued this for years.

Kerby's crimes are unspeakable. They are the stuff of nightmares. They are things that no adult should even have to think about, let alone the children that have had to unpack

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this and learn about what they didn't know was happening to

A 720-month sentence will hopefully guarantee that Jason 2

Kerby is never able to walk out of a prison cell. It will

hopefully protect children from him. It will keep him from

being able to engage in this pedophile community to fuel

others' sexual desires, and it will reflect how truly heinous

and horrific his actions were.

For all of these reasons and all of the 3553(a) factors, the United States requests a sentence of the statutory maximum, 720 months, which would be a 360-month sentence as to each of Counts 5 and 6, to run consecutively to one another.

Thank you, Your Honor.

THE COURT: All right. Thank you, Ms. Woolam. Ι appreciate that argument, and I will take all that into account.

And if-- One of the victims mentioned a desire to not grant parole. If the victims were physically present-you've probably explained this to them in any event, but if they were physically present, I would explain to them, there's no such thing as parole in the federal system. Parole was abolished in the federal system long ago. So to the extent you have not explained that already, I would ask the victim witness coordinator, who I know is in the courtroom--again, it's most likely already been done anyway, but out of an abundance of caution, I would tell them that.

All right. Ms. Woolam, do you know any reason why the Court cannot lawfully impose sentence at this time?

> No, Your Honor. MS. WOOLAM:

THE COURT: Mr. Mayo?

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No, Your Honor. MR. MAYO:

THE COURT: All right. I have carefully reviewed the presentence report, the PSR addendum and its second addendum, and I inform the defendant that the plea agreement is finally accepted. Judgment and sentence will be consistent with it.

I am required by statute to impose a sentence that is sufficient, but not greater than necessary, to comply with the purposes of sentencing set forth in Section 3553(a)(2), and to consider all of the sentencing factors listed in that statute, which I have done.

Now, Mr. Kerby, all that really means, what I just said, is that I consider certain guideposts in every case to try to figure out what's a reasonable sentence. Every case is different because every person is different, every crime is different, and every criminal defendant's history is different.

One of the guideposts that I apply in every case is the nature and circumstances of the offense, or what was the crime, what did you do. It is difficult to overstate the appalling, egregious, unthinkable nature of your crime, its

relevant conduct and its scope. We've talked at length about it. I have adopted the presentence report, so I don't need to restate everything, because, of course, I know what happened here. Let me see if there's anything else that hasn't previously been mentioned that I want to mention.

Regarding your activity in online communities involving this activity, that is an aggravating factor to me here. I mean, there are many, but we haven't talked about that in too much length. But you asked to speak with agents after the agents seized your devices and you told them that you used messaging platforms to communicate with others about having sex with their wives and that you had hidden cameras throughout your residence, including the bathroom. And you admitted that you were part of a social media messaging group called Verified Daughter that shared child sexual abuse images.

You admitted that you took images of Doe 1 with hidden cameras placed in vents, electrical outlets, and a USB charger, and that you had recorded her and others for several years. After being confronted with a series of pictures of the actual sexual abuse of Doe 1, you admitted that it was you who were in those images and videos and that you sexually abused Doe 1.

Doe 1 would wake up about twice a month to a cell phone light and you standing next to her in her bed. She said that when she was not tired before bed, you would pressure her

into taking sleep medications and that you would take photos of her and her friends when they were at the pool.

A forensic examination of your devices revealed that you were sexually abusing Doe while she was sleeping, and videos were also recovered depicting Doe 2 while--well, pictures of her that were sexual in nature.

An external hard drive contained, among other things, images and videos of your sexual abuse of Doe 1, and law enforcement recovered chat conversations where you spoke about sexually abusing Does 1 and 2, drugging them with Ambien so they would stay asleep. In total, you produced and saved 500 images and videos of Does 1 and 2. You admitted that you had distributed approximately twelve sexual abuse images of Doe 1, and an additional twelve of Doe 2.

You admitted that you had produced child sexual abuse images of two additional child victims during a sleepover at your residence, people that had entrusted their children in your house just so kids could have fun. You distributed those images after that abuse over a social media network and platform.

You later admitted to capturing nude images of an adult female friend of your ex-wife on multiple occasions and filming another child through a bathroom window. You had also received a couple dozen child sexual abuse images of others.

Again, it's hard to overstate, in addition to

what's already been said in those victim impact statements and what the United States has fairly said today, the serious and egregious nature of this crime. There's just layer after layer after layer of things that make this case particularly disturbing, serious, dangerous.

Among them, to summarize—— Again, the advisory guideline here typically would be life. It's been reduced to 720 months, or 60 years, because there's two counts, each with 30-year maximums. But make no mistake—— I know that you and your attorney have asked for two 30-year sentences to run concurrently, and I know the reasons for that, and I have considered that.

But your conduct is so serious that Congress, through a commission, under these circumstances, have said, everything else being equal, life imprisonment. Here, it's reduced to 720 months. Just advisory. I could throw it out the window if I wanted to after considering it. So it's advisory, but nevertheless, that speaks volumes to what a serious crime we have before us.

And the reasons are legion. This case involves hands-on sexual abuse. Possession of child pornography is serious enough. Distribution is serious enough. But there's hands-on sexual abuse of not one, not two--two minors, in addition to capturing images of other people, in addition to the hands-on sexual abuse of your--of two minors. It wasn't

just any abuse of minors. It was abuse of minor family members, your own stepdaughters, a role that you took a sacred oath to step into to fill a breach, and you leveraged that for your own deviant and perverted pleasure and then shared it with others.

In addition to the hands-on sexual abuse of the two stepdaughters, the abuse persisted for years. Even a minor, drunken, moronic, and criminal single episode would be incredibly serious, and you wake up the next day and go, what in the world have I done.

That's not what happened here. There was no sobering up. There was no, "This can't go on." This abuse persisted for years. The trauma that was caused your victims, it's going to persist for years, and it's immeasurable. They have a life sentence to deal with this. The victim impact statements that were read today weigh heavily here. Those victims have been heard, and I will take those into account.

In addition to the hands-on sexual abuse of your stepdaughters for years, for years, that wasn't enough. You captured this abuse with digital images and videos, compounding the trauma. This isn't something that they had to suffer once, knowing that. That was harmful enough. But now they know that it was captured to be viewed later for someone else's enjoyment, your own.

But in addition to that, you then distributed those

images and videos of your own stepdaughters to others on the internet to share that abuse so other people could get their enjoyment from it, again, again, just multiplying the damage done to your own family.

You were involved with an online community of other child predators or peddlers of child sexual abuse images. And that is a significant and serious aggravating factor here, and it just shows how deep your perversion and compulsion goes.

In addition to everything I've mentioned, you drugged your victims, so-- You can shake your head if you'd like. It's not in dispute that you gave your daughters Ambien; that that, of course, made them sleep. You talked in the PSR--Ms. Woolam, please correct me if I'm wrong--but in a chat, "Hey, one's not doing it." "Well, then, try two."

Is that right, Ms. Woolam? I just want to make sure I'm not overstating anything, because I don't need to. There's plenty enough here. But give me one second.

MS. WOOLAM: Yes, Your Honor. It's paragraph 26 of the PSR. There's a message Kerby sent that said, "I tried again with one, and it just doesn't knock her out." There are other messages that I mentioned earlier discussing the Ambien and his discussions with individuals.

THE COURT: Okay. Thank you.

So you are giving them strong sleep aids so you can have your way with them. The complete disregard for the

innocence of your own family members is just hard to fathom, but you did it.

You produced child sexual abuse material of two additional child victims, and you distributed those materials to other people. So it didn't just stop with your own stepdaughters. You did all this in part, also, by hiding cameras throughout your own house, capturing nude images of an adult female who visited your home.

Combined, all of these considerations leave me no doubt that you are an incredible danger to society. You appeared to just use everything and everyone around you for your own perverted deviant pleasures, without regard to their well-being, without regard to the consequences, and without sympathy to the impact that it might have on them.

I have not seen--I have not seen a case like this before, and I've seen a lot. I often say that every time I think I've seen truly the bottom of human depravity, a case comes along and sadly proves me right, that I haven't found the bottom, and this is one of those cases. So, again, the nature and circumstances here are unlike anything I've seen, and I can't overstate how serious they are.

Now, it's not the only thing I consider. I also consider your history and your characteristics. And I note that you have no criminal history, and that weighs in your favor. I have taken that into account. It does not materially

mitigate or offset the nature and circumstances of what you did, because it's just so serious.

I've considered the need to impose a sentence that reflects the seriousness of the offense. I have to promote respect for the law. You absolutely knew better. Time and time and time and time again, you did what you wanted to do, and then you shared it with others.

I have to give a just punishment. And if anybody ever questions whether just punishment is a proper sentencing consideration, I'll note that this courtroom is full. And it's full of some of your supporters, but it's also full of some community members who are ready to see just deserts be applied, and that's something that Congress has told me to consider, and I will.

I have to afford adequate deterrence of criminal conduct, and I have to protect the public from further crimes.

I have considered whether any unwarranted sentencing disparity would result if I were to apply a guideline sentence. And, Mr. Mayo, I have considered *Randall*, and I have considered *Grzywinski*. Thank you for that briefing. That is helpful for me to think about this case in relation of others. Those cases—you know, many of those cases are—they're just unique, and those cases are distinguishable. Of course, there are aspects of those cases that aren't present here that are aggravating, but there are things present here

that are aggravating that aren't present in those cases.

So, in *Randall*, for example, while this is Kerby's first conviction, Kerby is a hands-on offender of his own stepchildren. The victims here trusted him. He was not some online stranger. And, moreover, he repeatedly just manipulated the environment around them to increase his ability to do what he wanted with them.

As for *Grzywinski*, while that defendant's past hands-on offense certainly weighed heavily, it wasn't part of the direct offense at issue. The sentence was a substantial upward variance in that case of about 20 years from the guideline range, which was already raised in that case because of the statutory minimum. Here, the guidelines range would be life, if not for the statutory maximum.

Moreover, we have actual production of child pornography in this case, not just an attempt, along with Kerby's actual distribution of the images to others, which, again, just compounds the trauma and the victimization.

And then finally, again, these were his own stepdaughters to whom he was entrusted, not strangers.

So I find that there is no unwarranted disparity as a result of the advisory guideline range. It's just advisory. I'm going to impose a sentence that I think is the reasonable one regardless.

After considering all of the statutory factors, the

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purposes of sentencing, and the parties' arguments, I'm going to deny the request for a concurrent sentence for the reasons stated today by the Court and for the reasons stated by the United States today in the court and in its sentencing memorandum.

And for all of those reasons, the statutory factors, the purposes of sentencing, the parties' arguments, and all of the filings in this case, I have determined that a sentence of 360 months as to Count 5, and 360 months as to Count 6, to run consecutively, for a total of 720 months, is sufficient, but not greater than necessary.

Given your age, sir, which is forty-five, I view this as effectively a life sentence, but the judgment is 720 months.

I conclude that these sentences should run consecutively in light of the egregious offense conduct, the need for a just punishment and adequate deterrence, and the need to protect the public from future crimes.

This offense involved extensive exploitation of the defendant's stepchildren, stepchildren's friends, and even other community members. The defendant's actions have inflicted life-long harms on his victims, and a combined 30-year sentence would be wholly inadequate to provide a just punishment for these actions and to protect the public from his demonstrated repeated predation on children.

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Accordingly, to properly account for all of the 3553(a) factors, I do find it necessary to impose the statutory maximum as to each count and to run them consecutively.

I will inform both sides that, although I believe the guideline calculations announced today were correct, to the extent they were incorrectly calculated, I would have imposed the same sentence without regard to that range, and I would have done so for the same reasons, in light of the 3553(a) factors.

This is one of those cases where, as I have detailed, the nature and circumstances are just so egregious that the only reasonable sentence, in this Court's view, is the statutory maximum to both counts, regardless of the range, and to run those consecutively, and I would do that regardless of the range.

Upon release, if you are released, you will be on supervised release for a term of life as to each count, to run concurrently. While on release, you shall comply with the mandatory conditions of release listed in your presentence report and in Section 3583(d).

Mr. Mayo, did you and your client receive and discuss my written notice of intent to impose the standard and special conditions?

MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor. We executed it and filed it into the Court's file, as well as he--I gave him a

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copy as well.
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THE COURT: All right. Thank you very much. appreciate that. Do you have any objections to those conditions?

> No, Your Honor. MR. MAYO:

THE COURT: All right. I have one minor change. There was just a--either a typographical error on our part or a misreporting of an address. But the special condition involving restitution and the detailing of the various victims, the address listed various amounts for Doe 1. The first "9" that is listed in that address should be an "8." I'm just going to make that change. I won't announce the entirety of the address, but the first "9" for the address for Does 1 and 2 will be changed from a "9" to an "8."

Any objection to that?

MR. MAYO: No objection.

THE COURT: From the United States?

MS. WOOLAM: No objection, Your Honor.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Hearing no objections from either side to any of the conditions or the one minor change today, the Court adopts those conditions today. They will be included in their judgment--in my judgment. I find that all of those conditions are related to the nature and characteristics of the offense, the history and characteristics of the defendant, the deterrence of criminal conduct,

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protection of the public from further crimes, and the provision of needed correctional treatment.

Further, I find that these conditions do not impose any greater deprivation of liberty than reasonably necessary to advance deterrence, protect the public, and advance the defendant's correctional needs.

I find that the defendant does not have the ability to pay a fine in addition to the restitution obligations and the assessments, so I'm going to waive a fine.

He must, however, pay the mandatory special assessment of \$200, 100 per count. That's due and payable immediately to the United States.

The defendant is subject to the Amy, Vicky, and Andy Child Pornography Victim Assistance Act of 2018. Based on the defendant's financial condition and future earning capacity and pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 2259, the defendant shall immediately pay an assessment of \$10,000--5,000 per count-payable to the District Clerk's Office here in Abilene.

If, upon the commencement of the term of supervised release, any part of that remains unpaid, he shall make payments on the unpaid balance beginning 60 days after release from custody at a rate of at least \$200 per month until paid in full.

The defendant is also subject to the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act. Based on his ability to pay and

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the future earning capacity and his financial condition and pursuant to 18 U.S.C. Section 3014, he shall immediately pay an assessment of \$10,000--5,000 per count--payable to the Clerk's Office in Abilene.

If, upon the commencement of the term of supervised release, any part remains unpaid, he shall make payments on the unpaid balance beginning 60 days after release from custody at a rate of \$200 per month until paid in full.

Okay. Let's talk about restitution. Regarding restitution, the Court must determine the full amount of the victims' losses that were incurred or are reasonably projected to be incurred by the victim as a result of the trafficking and child pornography depicting the victim. That's 18 U.S.C. Section 2259(b)(2).

After doing so, I must order restitution in an amount that reflects the defendant's relative role in the causal process that underlies the victim's losses, but which is no less than \$3,000.

Pursuant to Section 2259(c)(2), the full amount of the victim's losses includes any costs incurred or that are reasonably projected to be incurred in the future by the victim, including medical services related to physical, psychiatric, and psychological care; physical and occupational therapy and rehab; necessary transportation; temporary housing and child expenses; lost income; reasonable attorney's fees; as

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well as other costs incurred and any other relevant losses incurred by the victim.

The government bears the burden of demonstrating the amount of loss sustained by the victim. That's Paroline. And the Court may consider reliable evidence, including the PSR, its addenda, and information provided by the victim. That's Serrata, S-e-r-r-a-t-a, a Fifth Circuit case from 2017.

Once sufficient reliable evidence establishes the victim's losses, the defendant must provide rebuttal evidence, not mere objections, to contest the amount. That's both Serrata and Williams, a Fifth Circuit case from 2021 and Section 2259(b)(3).

To determine the extent to which the defendant proximately caused losses to the victim, I consider several rough guideposts pursuant to *Paroline*. While there are seven rough guideposts in *Paroline* at 460, I won't list them all or name them all, but I have considered them. They are in front This is not a rigid formula, and I need not make explicit findings concerning all of the factors. That is *Halverson*, H-a-l-v-e-r-s-o-n.

Here, there are multiple identified victims of Kerby's offenses who have requested restitution. First, Jane Does 1 and 2 have requested restitution due to Kerby's sexual abuse of them, which he recorded and distributed to others.

Second, Maria and Pia, P-i-a, victims of known

series of child pornography, have requested restitution based 1 on the defendant's possession of their images. 2 The Court has reviewed the evidentiary packets 3 submitted by the victims and the parties' filings. Those are 4 Docket Numbers 44-1, 45, 47, 48, 50-2, 50-3, and 53-1. 5 Now, I understand that the parties have come to an 6 agreement on the total amount of restitution, and it's my 7 understanding that that total amount is \$540,042.08. 8 Is that right, Ms. Woolam? Is that the amount you 9 10 have? 11 MS. WOOLAM: That is correct, Your Honor. 12 THE COURT: Is that right, Mr. Mayo? MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor. 13 14 THE COURT: Okay. That is the amount ordered that the defendant must pay in restitution. Restitution shall be 15 paid to the District Clerk's Office in Abilene, Texas, for 16 disbursement in the following ways and to the following 17 victims: 18 \$251,708.48 to Jane Doe 1, to Justin Cheyne in 19 trust for Jane Doe 1, in Tuscola, Texas; 20 \$250,987.06 to Jane Doe 2, paid to the Clerk's 21 Office for Justin Cheyne--it's C-h-e-y-n-e--in trust for Doe 2, 22 in Tuscola, Texas; 23 \$22,346.54 to Jane Does 1 and 2 jointly, paid to 24 the Clerk's Office for Justin Cheyne in trust for Does 1 and 2, 25

in Tuscola, Texas;

\$7500 to Maria, paid to the Clerk's Office for Carol Hepburn in trust for Maria; and

\$7500 to Pia, to Deborah Biano in trust--B-i-a-n-o--in trust for Pia, in Bellevue, Washington.

Based upon the documentation provided to the Court, the Court has conducted the analysis required by *Paroline*, and I do find that the restitution amounts that were awarded are costs incurred or costs reasonably projected to be incurred in the future by the victims as a proximate result of the defendant's offense.

For Does 1 and 2, Kerby sexually abused these victims, filmed their abuse, distributed the images and videos to an unknown number of individuals online. Given that these images and videos are the direct result of Kerby's own offense conduct, their losses are directly and proximately caused by him. The restitution amounts address conservative estimates of the psychological counseling and medical treatment that Does 1 and 2 will need as a result of Kerby's actions, as detailed in Docket Numbers 44-1, 47, 53-1, Government's Sealed Exhibit A to Docket Number 47.

As explained in these documents, an hour of professional counseling generally costs \$150 to \$200. Using the median rate at one session per week for 35 years, taking the Jane Does to ages forty and thirty-seven, their counseling

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costs will be around \$245,000, not taking into account inflation, medications prescribed, or the need for more intensive counseling.

It is reasonably likely that they will end up needing more than this median cost, making the awards of 250,000 to both Does appropriate future projections for counseling expenses. The additional \$1,708.48 to Doe 1 and \$987.06 to Doe 2 reflect already-incurred medical expenses detailed in their restitution filings.

Moreover, the additional \$22,346.54 to Does 1 and 2 jointly addresses expenses incurred for transportation and housing for the Does after the FBI raid on their previous residence when they were residing with Kerby. These costs are outlined in Docket Numbers 44-1 and 53-1, and the Court finds that they are reasonable costs incurred as a direct and proximate result of Kerby's offense for the reasons stated in Docket Number 47.

I further note that these awards to Does 1 and 2 were addressed in briefing by both the defendant and the government, and the parties agree that these amounts were costs incurred or costs reasonably projected to be incurred in the future as the proximate result of the defendant's offense. See Docket Numbers 45, 47, and 48.

As for Kerby's collection of child pornography with the victims Maria and Pia, I do find that, specifically, Kerby

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had three files depicting Maria. She has provided documentation of an estimated lifetime cost between 124,000 and change and 149,000 and change, excluding attorney's fees, resulting from the production and distribution of images of 187 prior restitution orders have been made for Maria, but only 82 defendants have actually made any payments.

While Kerby did not produce these images, his possession of them contributes to her continued revictimization. Accordingly, based on the documentation provided and the *Paroline* analysis the Court has done, I do conclude that \$7500 represents costs incurred or reasonably projected to be incurred in the future by Maria as a proximate result of the defendant's offense. This amounts to only 6 percent of the lower end of Maria's estimated losses.

As for Pia, Kerby possessed seven files depicting Pia has provided documentation estimating that she will incur 286,000 to 323,000 for psychological care, and she anticipates losing between 800,000 and 1.4 million in employability as a result of the production and distribution of the child pornography images of her. It's unknown how many persons possessed her images or how many restitution awards have been made. Again, he didn't produce--the defendant didn't produce these images, but his possession of them aggravates the trauma she faces due to these images of her at ages of three to six years old.

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Kerby's actions, like others who possessed these 1 images, effectively reinflicts the harm perpetrated against the 2 victim. So, based on the documentation provided and my 3 consideration of the *Paroline* factors, I do conclude that \$7500 4 represents the costs incurred or reasonably projected to be 5 incurred in the future by Pia as a proximate result of the 6 defendant's offense. This amounts to 2.5 percent of the low 7 end of her estimated costs of psychological care. 8 Mr. Mayo, does the defendant believe that any 9 additional findings or explanation of the Court's conclusion is 10 required to sustain an award of restitution in an amount of 11 12 \$540,042.08 to these victims? 13 MR. MAYO: No, Your Honor. 14 THE COURT: Does the government? MS. WOOLAM: No, Your Honor. 15 THE COURT: Then that will be the order. 16 If, upon the commencement of the term of supervised 17 release, any part of this restitution remains unpaid, the 18 defendant shall make payments on the unpaid balance beginning 19 60 days after release from custody at a rate of at least \$500 20 per month until paid in full. 21 It's ordered that your interest in the following 22 property is condemned and forfeited to the United States: 23

A black Seagate 2 terabyte external hard drive with a serial number that ends in OTM and all other items listed in

Exhibit A by law enforcement during the search of the 1 defendant's residence on August 28th and turned over to law 2 enforcement on September 5th of 2023 and September 11th of 3 2023. 4 Mr. Mayo, I'm happy to pronounce all of the 5 property listed in Exhibit A here today, unless the defense and 6 the United States wish to waive that pronouncement. 7 can you confirm whether you would like the Court to pronounce 8 all of the property listed in Exhibit A? 9 10 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor, that is appropriate. There's--and I'll get with the government as far as some other 11 12 additional family photos and things of that nature that weren't included in Exhibit A that I know Mr. Kerby had an interest in 13 14 preserving for his family, but I'll get with the government on 15 that. THE COURT: Okay. So let me make sure I 16 It's appropriate for you to waive the reading of 17 understand. Exhibit A? 18 That is correct, Judge. 19 MR. MAYO: okay. Ms. Woolam, do I need to read 20 THE COURT: Exhibit A into the record, or will the government waive it, as 21 we11? 22 MS. WOOLAM: The government waives that reading, as 23 24 well, Your Honor. 25 THE COURT: Okay. All right. And, Ms. Woolam,

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just for the record, will you, well, confirm with me, Exhibit A
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      is found in--I have it in Docket Number 29 at pages 3 to 6, so
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      the record is clear on that. You can confirm that and correct
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     me if I'm wrong. But just so everyone is clear, that is
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      Exhibit A. That is what--that is the material that I am
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      forfeiting.
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                 All right. I will recommend to the Bureau of
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      Prisons that, while incarcerated, the defendant receive
      appropriate sex offender, substance abuse, and mental health
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      treatment, but I didn't lengthen the defendant's term of
      imprisonment to promote rehabilitation.
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                 All right. Mr. Kerby, to the extent you have not
     waived your right to appeal, you do have the right to appeal
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     your conviction and your sentence. If you'd like to appeal,
     you need to file a notice of appeal within 14 days of today in
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     this Court. If you want to do that, just tell Mr. Mayo. He's
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     very familiar with that process, and he can help you get that
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     done.
                 He can also ask that the costs associated with that
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He can also ask that the costs associated with that appeal go to the United States, and not to you.

Do you understand those appellate rights?
THE DEFENDANT: Yes, sir.

THE COURT: Okay. All right. Mr. Mayo, anything else from the defense?

MR. MAYO: Judge, I would just ask for a nonbinding

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recommendation to Seagoville.
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                 THE COURT: That's granted. I'll make a nonbinding
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      placement recommendation to FCI Seagoville.
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                 MR. MAYO:
                            Thank you, Judge.
                 THE COURT: All right. And, Mr. Mayo, you were
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      appointed by the Court to represent Mr. Kerby in this case; is
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      that right?
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                 MR. MAYO: Yes, Your Honor.
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                 THE COURT: I want to thank you for accepting that
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      appointment. Not all appointments are created equally.
      required an extensive amount of work on your part and
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      collaboration with the United States. You have done an
      excellent job for your client. The Court couldn't do its work
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     without members of the bar being willing to take criminal
      appointments. So on behalf of the Court of the Northern
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     District, thank you for your service to the Court.
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                 Anything else from the United States?
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                 MS. WOOLAM: No, Your Honor.
                 THE COURT: All right. One second.
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           (PAUSE)
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                             All right. Mr. Kerby, at this time,
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                 THE COURT:
     you are remanded to the custody of the United States Marshal.
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                 Court is adjourned.
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           (END OF HEARING)
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I, Mechelle Daniel, Federal Official Court Reporter in and for the United States District Court for the Northern District of Texas, do hereby certify pursuant to Section 753, Title 28, United States Code, that the foregoing is a true and correct transcript of the stenographically reported proceedings held in the above-entitled matter and that the transcript page format is in conformance with the regulations of the Judicial Conference of the United States. /s/ Mechelle Daniel ______DATE__JULY 8, 2024_____ MECHELLE DANIEL, CSR #3549 FEDERAL OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER